

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

50X1-HUM

REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Rumania

DATE DISTR. 20 March 1952

SUBJECT The Proletarul Weaving Mill at Bacau

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1. At the time of nationalization (June 1948) there were the following three large weaving mills working in Bacau: Bistrita, Singer, and Izvoreanu which was the largest. In March 1949, all three factories were transferred to the premises of the Izvoreanu mill and amalgamated into an enterprise called Proletarul. In addition to the wool spinning and weaving machinery the Izvoreanu mill also had cotton spindles and a worsted yarn mill. The cotton spindles were transferred to Buhusi and Iasi and the worsted yarn mill was dismantled and transferred partly to Timisoara and partly to Bucharest to other factories, so that there remained only the wool spinning and weaving equipment and finishing installations in Bacau.
2. The Proletarul Factory was located at Bacau, 25 Strada 1 Mai, with its main entrance facing the Bistrita River. As the premises of the former Izvoreanu mill were not large enough to house all these factories it was decided to expropriate a block of houses at the back of the factory, so that it could be extended as far as the Blvd. Republicii. The factory was a completely equipped wool weaving mill with all machinery for the preparation of wool from washing and devilling to dressing and dyeing. The equipment included 300 spindles. The factory had 1,500 office employees and workers, the latter mainly on piece-work, except for those occupied with dyeing and dressing. An attempt was made to introduce norms in these branches also, so that piece-work rates could be introduced. Average wages for a worker were between 4,000 and 6,000 lei monthly, on which no worker could live, but there were some people earning up to 10,000 or 12,000 lei.

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Most of the raw materials were imported, including cotton from the USSR, wool substitutes from Czechoslovakia, and shoddy (rag-wool) from Poland and Czechoslovakia.

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4. The factory worked in three shifts, and produced cloth for Army uniforms (50 to 60% wool) and medium quality woolen cloth for civilians for local consumption only (20 to 25% wool). The plan for the first three months of 1951 required the following production: 40,000 meters cloth for Army jackets, 40,000 meters cloth for Army trousers, 20,000 meters cloth for Army great coats. The plan was never fulfilled for lack of raw material and fuel, civilian cloth being manufactured instead of Army cloth when there was not enough wool for the latter.

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5.

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INFORMATION REPORT

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1. A new military airdrome is in the process of construction in the Galbinasi-Frunzanesti area.
2. The work on this airdrome is under the supervision of Soviet technicians. The surrounding area is guarded by Soviet military police.

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